

A CASE-BEARER INJURIOUS TO APPLE AND
PLUM IN CHINA (*COLEOPHORA NEVI-*
USIELLA, NEW SPECIES).

BY AUGUST BUSCK,

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An interesting sending of living *Coleophora* larvæ was received last year at U. S. Department of Agriculture from Mrs. John L. Nevius, Chefoo, China. The larvæ were enclosed with a small apple twig in a pasteboard box tightly sealed by gummed strips. It left Chefoo May 16, 1903, and arrived in Washington, June 20. On opening the box it was found that all had come alive; some of the moths had issued during transit and were somewhat rubbed, but subsequently several more issued. In a letter of May 16 Mrs. Nevius wrote that these insects were first brought to her attention in a garden of foreign fruit trees in Chefoo by a native gardener, who said that they were a new kind of worm, which had recently made their appearance and which did great damage to the apple and plum trees in his garden. Later the same insect was found damaging apple and plum in the sender's own garden. Other native gardeners complained of its injuries, also believing it a "new worm." This testimony together with the fact that a large number of foreign fruit trees has been imported to this part of China, and considering how easily *Coleophora* could be introduced with them, made it seem probable that it might be an American or a European species of *Coleophora* which caused the damage complained of; but I have been unable to identify the species with any described *Coleophora* from Europe or America. I am inclined to believe that the species is a native of China, which has transferred its attack from some allied native tree to the imported fruit trees.

It belongs to the same group as our so-called Cigar-case-bearer (*Coleophora fletcherella* Fernald), which also feeds on apple and plum.

***Coleophora neviusiella*, new species.**

Antennæ dark brown with sharply defined silvery white annulations; basal joint with slightly developed tuft. Labial palpi dark fuscous, silvery on the inner side and with tips of both joint whitish; tuft on underside of second joint very small. Head and thorax dark fuscous; face somewhat lighter. Forewings dark shining, fuscous, evenly sprinkled with steel gray and bluish white scales; on the middle of the

fold is a not very pronounced blackish longitudinal line and at the end of the cells is a still less noticeable blackish area, darkest towards the base of the wing, which in well preserved specimens produces, for a *Coleophora*, the unusual effect of a transverse marking. Cilia lighter fuscous. Hind wings shining, dark fuscous. Legs whitish, strongly sprinkled with light brown on the outer sides. Expanse 12-13 mm.

The cases are what has been termed "cigar-shaped," that is straight and nearly cylindrical though somewhat compressed; the neck is slightly bent and the other end is contracted and three-lipped. The case is made of the epidermis of the leaf sewed together and lined with yellow silk which gives it a rich ochre yellow color. Length of case, 8-9 mm.

Type. — No. 7730, U. S. National Museum.

A NOTE ON AGIA EBORATA HULST.

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This moth was sent to me by Dr. Wm. Barnes, bearing two labels, one his own and one that of Mr. H. D. Merrick. On each label the moth is called *Cenoclape parinotata* Zell.; but as I have the real *parinotata* from California, I knew this to be an error. Later Mr. Merrick wrote me that it was so and that the moth was *Agia eborata* Hulst, named from comparison with the type in the Hulst collection.

The single pair of spurs on the hind tibiæ with the ciliate antennæ limit it to two genera, *Cysteopteryx* and *Agia*. Hulst distinguishes *Cysteopteryx* as having one accessory cell, while *Agia* has two. But Packard, who described the type of *Cysteopteryx* (*viridata* Pack.) figures the moth with two cells. Again Hulst says the genus should have palpi short, but Packard (of *viridata*) says palpi of great length, which is also the case in *eborata*. In point of fact the only differences that I can find to be left in the genera are that one has a frenulum and the other not and that one has the hair pencil in the male and the other not. I cannot see either frenulum or hair pencil in my specimens with an ordinary lens. The description of *viridata* Packard in the Monograph and of *eborata* by Hulst might quite easily apply to the same insect.